Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application. Applicants have submitted a new complete claim set showing marked up claims with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing.

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for creating drill links in a report, comprising:

accessing a relational abstraction of a data store, the relational abstraction including a plurality of views, scalar or aggregate fields associated with the views, relations between the views, and a metadata layer that includes one or more objects that contain properties describing the data store, the views, the fields, and the relations, wherein the metadata layer is separate from the views;

receiving an indication from a user of a base view from among one or more views in the relational abstraction; and

providing a user interface for the user creating a customized report that includes at least one drill link,

wherein creating the customized report comprises:

selecting a view from the one or more views in the relational abstraction;

determining a relationship between the selected view and the base view;

presenting to the user a selection including only fields of the selected view constrained by the base view based upon the one or more objects in the metadata layer,

receiving a selection of at least one field of the fields;

determining if the selected field is a drillable; and

providing the at least one drill link on ~~each field of the selected field determined to be drillable the~~ a field constrained by the metadata layer of the relational abstraction based upon a relation path from the base view determined from the one or more objects in the metadata layer.

2.   (Canceled)

3.   (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1 wherein the report is in a HyperText Markup Language (HTML) format.

4.   (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1 wherein the report is in a Dynamic HyperText Markup Language (DHTML) format.

5.   (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1 wherein the report is in an eXtensible Markup Language (XML) format.

6.   (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1 wherein the report is in a Portable Document Format (PDF) format.

7.   (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1 wherein the report is in a Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG) format.

8.   (Canceled)

9.   (Previously Presented) A method of claim 1 wherein the drill link includes a reference to a second report.

10-17 (Cancelled).

18.   (Previously Presented)   A method of claim 1 wherein the drill link includes a reference to an object that is based upon at least one relational abstraction object having a base view that is a destination view of a relation in the relation path.

19.   (Original)   A method of claim 18 wherein the reference is to a report template.

20.   (Original)   A method of claim 18 wherein the reference is to an expression.

21.   (Currently Amended) A method for following drill links in a report comprising:

accessing a relational abstraction of a data store, the relational abstraction including a plurality of views, scalar or aggregate fields associated with the views, relations between the views, and a metadata layer having one or more objects that contain properties describing the data store, the views, the fields, and the relations, wherein the metadata layer is separate from the views;

providing a user interface for creating a first report containing at least one drill link, wherein creating the first report comprises including only fields constrained by a base view in the relational abstraction based upon the one or more objects in the metadata layer, and providing the at least one drill link on a field constrained by the metadata layer of the relational abstraction based upon a relation path from the base view determined from the one or more objects in the metadata layer;

selecting a drill link in the first report;

loading a report definition for the first report containing the selected drill link;

determining a relation path associated with the selected drill link, the relation path containing a sequence of one or more relations from the base view used in generating the first report; and

generating a second report based at least in part on information from the selected drill link.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Original) A method of 21 wherein the extracted information includes a reference to an expression.

25. (Original) A method of 21 wherein the extracted information includes a reference to a report template.

26. (Original) A method of 21 wherein the extracted information includes a reference to another report.

27. (Original) A method of claim 25 wherein a plurality of templates are displayed for user selection.

28. (Original) A method of 21 wherein extracted information includes a reference to a relation.

29.   (Original)   A method of claim 21 wherein the extracted information includes a reference to the first report.

30.   (Original)   A method of claim 21 wherein the extracted information includes a reference to a dynamic web page for the second report.

31.   (Previously Presented) A method of claim 21 wherein the extracted information includes a reference to a context of the drill link within the first report.

32.   (Original)   A method of claim 21 wherein the extracted information includes a reference to grouping key values identifying a particular value within the report.

33.   (Original)   A method of claim 21 wherein the extracted information is used to apply a filter on the second report.

34.   (Currently Amended) A computer system for creating drill links in a report, the system comprising:

a)   means for accessing a relational abstraction of a data store, the relational abstraction including a plurality of views, scalar or aggregate fields associated with the views, relations between the views, and a metadata layer that includes one or more objects that contain properties describing the data store, the views, the fields, and the relation, wherein the metadata layer is separate from the views; and

b)   means for providing a user interface for creating a report that includes at least one drill link, wherein the means for providing a user interface for creating a report comprises:

(i) means for selecting a view from the one or more views in the relational abstraction;

(ii) means for determining a relationship between the selected view and the base view;

(iii) means for including only fields of the selected view constrained by a base view in the relational abstraction based upon the one or more objects in the metadata layer,

(iv) means for receiving a selection of one field of the fields and determining if the selected field is drillable and

(v) means for providing the at least one drill link only on ~~each field of the selected field determined to be drillable,~~ a the field constrained by the metadata layer of the relational abstraction based upon a relation path from the base view determined from the one or more objects in the metadata layer.

35. (Currently Amended) A computer system for following drill links in a report, the system comprising:

a) means for accessing a relational abstraction of a data store, the relational abstraction including a plurality of views, scalar or aggregate fields associated with the views, relations between the views, and a metadata layer that includes one or more objects that contain properties describing the data store, the views, the fields, and the relation, wherein the metadata layer is separate from the views;

b) means for providing a user interface for creating a first report containing at least one drill link, wherein the means for providing a user interface for creating a first report comprises (i) means for including only fields constrained by a base view in the relational abstraction based upon the one or more objects in the metadata layer, and (ii) means for providing the at least one drill link only on a field constrained by the

metadata layer of the relational abstraction based upon a relation path from the base view determined from the one or more objects in the metadata layer;

   c)   means for selecting a drill link in the first report;

   d)   means for loading a report definition for the first report containing the selected drill link;

   e)   means for determining a relation path associated with the selected drill link, the relation path containing a sequence of one or more relations from the base view used in generating the first report; and

   means for generating a second report based at least in part on information from the selected drill link.

   36.   (Canceled)

   37.   (Canceled)